

her age a secret even while spreading her secrets to successful lobbying: Never beg for votes, don't assume you know everything and don't threaten anyone.

"She carries no flip phone, beeper or Powerbook," the Baltimore Sun said in 1995. "[Miss] Dubrow keeps her daily schedule on a card in her appointment calendar in her purse. And her yearly expenses are less than what some spend in telephone bills alone."

President Bill Clinton awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1999, calling her "a tiny woman, larger than life" who was "renowned for her grace, candor, and integrity, [who] has earned the respect of opponents and allies alike."

Unapologetically liberal, she had friends among both Republicans and Democrats, telling Washingtonian magazine in 1997: "In Washington you should never write off anybody. You'll be surprised where tomorrow's allies come from."

She came from Paterson, N.J., the daughter of immigrants from Belarus who found work in factories of New York and New Jersey. She got her start in labor activism handing out fliers about the Spanish Civil War in New York's Union Square. She graduated from New York University's School of Journalism and joined her first union, the Newspaper Guild, while working at the Paterson Morning Call newspaper.

She soon moved into full-time union work, as a secretary in the Textile Workers Union and as an assistant to the president of the New Jersey Congress of Industrial Organizations. She was one of the organizers of Americans for Democratic Action in 1947 and worked for the ADA until 1956. Legendary labor leader David Dubinsky hired her as lobbyist for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and sent her to Washington.

Miss Dubrow was in her mid-forties when she became one of a mere handful of female lobbyists in Washington. When she started, the federal minimum wage was \$1 an hour, equal pay was rarely mentioned and the law allowed discrimination in housing, hiring and health care. She fought long and hard for improvements in all those areas, and later, against the North American Free Trade Agreement, which eroded the jobs of American union members who made clothes.

"When I started this job, we were worried about sweatshops," she told The Washington Post in 1997. "Today we're still worried about sweatshops."

She was named vice president of the ILGWU in 1977, and when the union merged with another to form UNITE! (United Needleworkers, Industrial and Textile Employees), she became vice president and legislative director, then special assistant to its president. She was a founder of the Coalition of Labor Union Women.

Miss Dubrow became well recognized off Capitol Hill in time. In 1971, Ladies' Home Journal named her one of the 75 most important women in America, and in 1982, the old Washington Business Review called her one of the city's top 10 lobbyists.

Never married, with no immediate family survivors, she reveled in her many nieces and nephews. She also enjoyed poker, gin rummy and reading the classics.

In the 1970s, she endured four years of Metro rail construction in front of her D Street SE home. Her only complaint about it, she told The Post in 1977: "Their construction in front of my house caused my shoes to get muddy. But for two weeks, every day, one of the workers would go have them polished and bring them back to me."

FREEDOM FOR REINALDO MIGUEL LABRADA PEÑA

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Reinaldo Miguel Labrada Peña, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Labrada Peña is a peaceful pro-democracy activist and a member of the Christian Liberation Movement. His life is dedicated to the proposition that the men and women of Cuba must be free: free to learn, free to worship, free to enjoy their inalienable human rights. Unfortunately, the nightmare that is the Castro regime continues to violently oppress the people of Cuba, including those that bravely make known the atrocities committed against the Cuban people for the world to see.

In March 2003, as part of the regime's heinous crackdown on peaceful, pro-democracy activists, Mr. Labrada Peña was arrested. In a sham trial, he was sentenced to 6 years in the totalitarian gulag.

Mr. Labrada Peña is languishing in an inhuman, grotesque gulag simply because of his religious convictions and his desire to live in liberty. According to Amnesty International, he has been denied access to religious services and has inadequate ventilation in his squalid cell.

Mr. Labrada Peña is representative of the fighting spirit of the Cuban people: of their rejection of the brutality, discrimination, depravity, and oppression of the totalitarian tyranny. Thousands languish in the gulag because, like Mr. Labrada Peña, they refuse to accept the tyrannical dictatorship in Cuba today. It is reprehensible that, at the dawn of the 21st Century, men and women like Mr. Labrada Peña are still locked in dank dungeons because of the tenets of their faith.

Mr. Speaker, it is unconscionable that peaceful Cubans of all genders, creeds and colors are locked in Castro's barbarous gulag because they believe in a free Cuba. While the entire world sits by and ignores the suffering of the Cuban people, brave men and women like Mr. Labrada Peña represent the best of mankind. My Colleagues, we must demand freedom and human rights for all people, including those who live under the darkness of totalitarian regimes. We must demand immediate and unconditional freedom for Reinaldo Miguel Labrada Peña and every prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

IN MEMORY OF MR. RICK MERRITT

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and memory of Mr. Rick Merritt of Lighthouse Point, FL. Rick passed away on Father's Day, June 18, 2006, after a courageous battle against cancer. I had the privilege of meeting Rick in 2002, as he was extremely helpful to me during my time in the House of Representatives. Rick was a tal-

ented ally who used his ability and creativity to develop his own computer software programs. He was a patient man who spent many hours educating folks on technology, and how they could use computer software programs for their benefit. Rick's personable demeanor made him approachable and always accessible. He truly used his talents to teach others and better serve his fellow man.

Rick was also a strong advocate in protecting consumers and businesses in their dealing with the U.S. Postal Service. To this end, Rick was Executive Director of Postal Watch, a national watchdog group committed to advocating a consumer approach to postal reform. He was also active in the Wednesday Meeting that brought together folks from around the country to Washington, DC to discuss issues facing our Nation.

Roughly a year ago, Rick was diagnosed with cancer. Instead of withdrawing from his fight against cancer, Rick faced the challenge with courage and a spirit of determination. Although Rick lost his battle with cancer, his spirit lives on among his family and friends. My thoughts and prayers are with Rick's wife, Debbie, his daughter, Tobi; his mother, Lois; brothers, Scott, Mark and Michael; and the rest of the Merritt family during this time.

Rick loved his country, stood by his principles, was never afraid to take a risk and could always be counted upon to be there during the toughest times for his family, his colleagues and his friends.

Mr. Speaker, I was privileged to call Rick Merritt my friend.

HONORING DR. JARRELL JACKMAN FOR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Jarrell Jackman for his dynamic and committed leadership of the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation.

Dr. Jarrell Jackman has been a leader of the Trust for Historic Preservation for 25 years, serving first as Historic Projects Administrator and, since 1987, as Executive Director. In a unique partnership with the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, the Trust operates El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park that attracts 50,000 visitors annually from Santa Barbara and from around the world.

Under Dr. Jackman's leadership, the Trust bought and maintains for future generations the Mission Santa Inez Mills, significant remains of mission-period grist and fulling mills. In addition to acquiring and maintaining historic sites, the Trust preserves the diverse cultural heritage of Santa Barbara through its research, interpretation, educational programs, archeological work, historic restoration and preservation efforts. They work cooperatively with local jurisdictions and with dozens of state agencies, museums, private foundations, schools, and businesses to ensure that the rich cultural history of the central coast not only lives on for future generations but is accessible today.

The Trust has completed major construction projects for El Presidio de Santa Barbara